the overall performance, the achievement is 1.17 per cent.

श्री रामसिंह भाई पातलोया भाई राठवा : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतानें की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के पास ऐसी कोई गाइड-लाइन्स है जो ट्री प्लांटेशन करना चाहते हैं उसके अन्दर जो खर्चा होता है उसके लिये कुछ सहायता वे दे सकें ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, for afforestation one special programme was introduced in 1983. As per that programme which is identical to IRD programme, about Rs. 600 crores have to flow from the bank and a matching subsidy Ii is to come from Ihe Central Government and ihe State Governments on 50:50 basis. And this is being used for ihe afforestation in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question-Question No. 390.

Demand for Indian goods in gulf countries

*390. SHR! C. HARIDAS: Will ihe Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite demand for Indian products in ihe Gulf market there is a slump in Iheir exporl due to the poor quality and high price of such products: and

(b) if so, what steps Governmen! pro pose to take in the ma

IHE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A Statement fe laid on Ihe Table of Ihe House.

Statement

(a) There has not been any slump in our exports lo the Gulf region, ln spite pf severe competition from the advanced countries, there has been an increase in our exports to the Gulf region as will be evident from the following figures:

	(*Rs. Crores*)
1981-82	614
1982-83	687
1983-84	710

(b) Among the several measures proposed 10 be taken 10 improve our export performance in the Gulf region, following are the more important ones: —

(i) A new export promotion and marketing strategy for Indian goods has been drawn up. Selected countii:s have been identified as thrirst markets for intensive export promolion efforts.

(ii) Similarly, thrust commodities/ product groups have been identified and special measures *are* proposed ;o promote Iheir exports,

liii) Possibilities of link deals invoking linkage of exports with imports, within the framework of '.he existing policy, are being explored.

(iv) Participation in Exhibitions in th se countries. Exclusive Indian exhibitions are being organised in Sand' Arabia and Qatar. In addition Indian Jewellery exhibition-cum-sale cue being feed in UAE and Kuwait.

(v) Special attention is being paid to promote project exports in the region.

(vi) Promotion of joint ventures between Indian and local parties in these countries.

SHR! C. HARIDAS: Sir: 1 want to know from the hon. Minister as lo what is the demand for the Indian goods in the Gulf. Has the Government received any complaints about the substandard quality of Indian goods?

SHRl P. A. SANGMA: Sir. the main items of exports from our country to the Gulf area have been tea. spices, fruits. vegetables and meal. And now we have aho started in a small way the export of engineering goods. There has been at one time a complaint about the quality

of a particular product of this meat. We 1 are trying to take up the matter with the concerned party.

SHRI C. HARIDAS: Sir, the hon. Minister says that among other things, efforts are being made for the promotion of joint venture's between Indian and local parties in these countries. May I know what are tha existing joint ventures and the proposed joint ventures which will increase trade and commerce?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, the Indian companies have set up a number of joint ventures in the Gulf areas. Now, some of these are that in Saudia Arabia we have joint ventures on rubber producti, hotel management, engineering products; in Oman we have a project on petro-chemical complex; in Qatar we have three projects, namely, glass fibre, petro-chemical and paints; in UAE we have joint ventures on aluminium products, gas cylinders, sulphuric acid, steel rolling mills and ice-cream and in Bahrain we have joint venture on architectural interior decoration and construction of cinema houses.

SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Sir, the basis of the main question is that there Js an increase in t'ne malpractices: from these countries, the exporting countries, to the Gulf countries. I want to know from the Minister whether there is any increase in malpractices in the export business by way of certain sub-standard materials especially in the edible items and whether the Government has got any complaint from any Gulf countries in this regard.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: I have said that we have received one complaint and that is regarding meat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Jacob.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Sir, in the export of vegetables to the Gulf countries there was an alarming report in the press that vegetables are not lifted from the Trivandrum airport to the Gulf countries as a result of which several crores of foreign exchange are lost. Sir, once the foreign market is lost for vegetables, it will be difficult to capture it because they may switch on to other countries for the purchase of vegetables. Sir, is the Government taking steps to ensure that the supply of vegetables is going to be continued? I am told that the Air India have refused to carry vegetables on account of security reasons for want of certain equipment for checking up lh; vegetables sent from Trivandrum. Has it been brought to the notice of the Government?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, we are examining this question.

Boostig of silk production

*391. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE :f

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give incentives for boosting silk production in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to set up an "Institute of Fashion Technology" in Delhi for training designers and producers of silk; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Several steps heve been taken for increasing the production of silk in the country in past. A statement indicating major steps taken in this regard is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

•f-The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. (Mrs.) Asima Chatterjee.